

 <p>MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM</p> <p>CHILD CARE CENTERS POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL</p>	ISSUED 3/91	REVISED 3/05	CHAPTER 7	SECTION 7.4
CHAPTER Chapter 7. Meal Pattern	SUBJECT Types of Meal Service			

Unitized

Under the unitized method of meal service, each child receives at least the minimum serving size of each meal component. The children must be served each meal component in its entirety at the same time. The center may not serve smaller initial portions to a child and allow the child to request seconds. The full amount of each meal component must be served initially. Children must also be served all required meal components. It is not acceptable to delay the service of a required meal component until other components have been consumed.

Family Style

Under the family style method of meal service, each child receives a portion of each meal component. Replenishments of each meal component are readily available at each table. Family style meal service is allowable for CACFP if:

- Enough food is placed on each table to provide minimum portions of the family style components for all children at the table and to accommodate program adults supervising meal service at the table if they eat with the children.
- Some amount of each required component must be served to each child and at least the minimum regulatory portion must be offered to the child.
- When the full regulatory portion is not initially served to the child, participating supervising adults must assume the responsibility of actively asking the child if they would like the full portion during the course of the meal.

Any food placed on the table may not be reused or served as a leftover at a later time. Food which has been prepared, but not placed on the table, may be reused if properly stored and reheated to at least 165 degrees Fahrenheit. Under the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services sanitation standards, milk should not be left to sit on the table for any period of time. Milk should be poured just before the meal service begins. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services recommends the purchase of half-pint cartons or service of milk from a milk dispenser. Sanitation rules may vary depending on the location of the center. Please contact your local sanitarian for guidelines for your area.

With both meal types specified above, all food items must be placed on a child's plate in order to assure that a reimbursable meal or supplement is served. If the child is not served all required components, the meal may not be claimed for reimbursement. See Section 7.5 for exceptions for when all required components do not have to be served.